

TOWN ASSEMBLY MEETING OF THE VILLAGE OF ARDEN TOOK PLACE ON MONDAY
JANUARY 25, 1993 AT 7:30 PM AT THE GILD HALL, ARDEN, DELAWARE.

Those present were:

Joyce Bloom	Richard Bloom	Marianne Cinaglia
Eugene Shaw	Paul Thompson	Rae Gerstine
Hugh Roberts	Marjorie Roberts	Rebecca Fisher
Carl Falco	Carlisle Landel	Lynne Svenning
John Demsey	John Curler nv	Irene O'Connor
Elizabeth Varley	Gail Rinehart	Skip Salkeld
Dan Szurgyjlo	Lee Starr	Bill Press
Rep. Wayne Smith nv	Rodney Jester	Frank Akutowicz
Helen Macklem	Pat Liberman	Cy Liberman
Lew Aumack	Sally Hamburger	Peggy Aumack
Aaron Hamburger	Shaul Gladstone	Joan Colgan
Steven Threefoot	Rick Rothrock	Yvonne King
Thomas Colgan	Lou Bean	Connie Wright McKinney
Jean Brachman	Bernie Brachman	Tim Colgan
Maryellen Jobson	Sharon Kleban	Chris Demsey
Don Holcomb	A. Barnes King	Anne Oldach

Agenda Clarification: none

Approval of September Town Minutes: approved

Communications: The Delaware Estuary Program is sponsoring a Delaware Memorial Bridge Walk and Estuary Awareness Festival on Sunday October 17, 1993, a letter was sent to the organizers to show Ardens support for the events.

Report from Town Watch Co-ordinator: Kate Bartolo

Thanks to residents who have actively participated since 10/01/92 and also Jannie Stearns. Fifty patrollers have conducted 34 tours to date. Monthly breakdown - October-10, November-10, December-7, January-7, with more to be confirmed.

Brian Cahill - Town Liaison with New Castle County Police was unable to attend this meeting, will plan on future Town Meetings and will supply us with information Brochures for safety - providing us a years computerized report for incidents in all 3 Ardens, will be valuable tool for planning times and days for tours. Noticable drop-off of incidents since watch re-established, from 8 in August to 3 in December.

Reminder: Please report incidents to myself or Safety Committee as well police for accuracy.

High visibilty key to effectiveness and success of watch, see and be seen will discourage vandalism.

Participation needed to accomplish - 110 volunteers or 22% of all 3 Towns.

Also needed - residents who can patrol later hours when activity is concentrated.

Reminder - with full enrollment 4 times per year is planned.

Suggestions welcomed.

ADVISORY COMMITTEE: Marianne Cinaglia

As directed by the motion passed at the September Town Assembly meeting, the changes to the Charter concerning the Registration Committee, have been given to Representative Wayne Smith. These changes should be completed by March.

NOMINATIONS FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEES WERE THEN TAKEN FROM THE FLOOR

- ② ARCHIVES: Jean Brachman, Maryellen Jobson, Naomi Clark, Irene O'Connor
Rebecca Fisher. *ok*
- ? — ② AUDIT: Teri Tremel, Wayne Knotts, (John Landis) — ?
- ② BUDGET: Marianne Cinaglia, Kim Milling, Greg Walker, Larry Walker *ok*
- ③ BWVC: Ruth Bean, Connee McKinney, Joyce Bloom, John Stevenson — *ok*
Jean Olson, Hays Butler
- ② CIVIC: Lynne Svenning, Charles McKean, Rodney Jester, Victoria Fate — *ok*
- ? — ③ COMMUNITY
PLANNING: Don Holcomb, Rebecca Fisher, Paul Thompson
- ? — ③ LEGISLATIVE
REFERENCE: Hays Butler, Hugh Roberts, *Bea Sandhuell, Tom H, Mary I, John Stevens* *ok*
- ? — ③ PLAYGROUND: ~~NEED NOMINEES~~ *Beth Stevenson, Mary Vernon, Pat Jordan*
- ? — ⑩ REGISTRATION: Elizabeth Varley, Sharon Kleban, ~~Yvonne King~~
Paul Thompson. *Harol Hannover, Reggy Aumack*
- ② SAFETY: Peg Aumack, A. Barnes King, Tim Colgan *Eliz Vanley. — ok*

TOWN OFFICERS

TOWN ASSEMBLY CHAIRMAN: William Press
ADVISORY CHAIRMAN: Marianne Cinaglia
TOWN TREASURER: Rae Gerstine
TOWN SECRETARY: Irene O'Connor

Elections for the above nominees will take place at the Town Assembly meeting on March 22, 1993.

Report accepted

TRUSTEES REPORT: Shaul Gladstone

1. The new rent list has been prepared, and land rent bills are in the process of being sent out for fiscal year 1993-1994. Total to be collected is \$219,873.
2. All senior citizens who qualify for New Castle County tax rebates are urged to file the necessary affidavits with the County Finance Department. In addition, we urge everyone with a mortgage to check his or her statements carefully. There appears to be a renewed flurry of inter-company mortgage sales, as well as mortgage refinancing. Whenever this happens, there is the danger of double payment of taxes.
3. Total bank balances and investments as of 12/31/92 were \$106,462.
4. Some concern was expressed at the 1/4/92 Advisory Committee meeting that the structure being erected on Lot. NO 45 was intended as a residence and/or rental property rather than its announced purpose as an artist's studio. At the request of the Advisory Committee, the Trustees sent a letter to the leaseholders reiterating the conditions under which authorization for this structure was granted. Copies of the letter were sent to the New Castle County Planning Department and to Marianne Cinaglia, Chairperson of the Advisory Committee. Copies of the architectural drawing on which approval was based are in the leasehold file for Lot No. 45.
The Trustees have exerted the maximum authority permitted them by law in making certain that the studio in question is within the parameters allowed by New Castle County zoning regulations. The only alternative to allowing structures such as this to be built is for Arden to re-assume its authority for zoning within the Village, a power which it perhaps unwisely relinquished to the County many years ago.

Respectfully submitted,
Trustees of Arden

Report accepted

(copy of letter on file with
Town Secretary)

ARCHIVES: Sally Hamburger

The committee continues to work diligently at the task of identifying and cataloguing photographs, filing articles and documents, and responding to requests for information. Some of us are always on duty on Saturday mornings as well as odd times during the week.

Finn and Karol Hannover have graciously offered to donate a painting by Ralph Sharfe and are in the process of having it appraised.

Joan Colgan's special project has been pursuing a plaque designating Arden a National Historic Place. Thanks to Wayne Smith, the Joint Finance Committee sees no reason why this project will not be approved in June. The sign, blue with gold lettering, is made of cast metal and costs about \$1,600 - cost born by the State of Delaware. We can now consider where to put it.

Report accepted

ASSESSORS REPORT: Aaron Hamburger

The first of three public meetings will be held on Wednesday, January 27, the dates of the following meetings are May 24, and June 3. The Chairman of the Assessors committee is Aaron Hamburger, Secretary is Cy Liberman. Other members of the committee are - Carl Falco, Pete Renzetti, Eugene Shaw, Hugh Roberts and Yvonne King.

Report Accepted

AUDIT COMMITTEE: no report

BUDGET COMMITTEE: no report

CIVIC COMMITTEE: Lou Bean

The Club Path and the Milky Way have both been resurfaced. The Club Path in particular had been much broken up by roots.

Three nineteen year olds were apprehended recently by the County Police. They were linked to over one hundred incidents of vandalism in this area. It was suggested that they might be available for community service. This matter was discussed with Deputy County Attorney Melissa Lazarich. She indicated she would keep us in mind. Presumably the cases have to be resolved before anything happens. We have prepared a list of jobs, but we are interested in suggestions from anyone.

In November work was started on repairs to the Field Theater stage wall. The masonry work was only started when we got complaints about its appearance. The work was halted and the concerned residents met with members of the committee on the site early the following Saturday morning. Everyone got a chance to express their objection to what was being done and to suggest how it should be done. There was in the end agreement on how it should be done. The fact that the temperature was in the low 20's may have made for quicker agreement and a shorter meeting.

The committee retained Ed Rohrbach to prepare a drawing covering the work. This was to make certain there were no misunderstandings concerning what was planned. He was also asked to provide some surveillance over the work as it was done to make certain it was what was planned. All who have seen the drawing have been favorably impressed with what is planned.

The DOT is offering a service to small municipalities from what they call the Delaware T² Center. Of particular interest to Arden are the following:

1. Pavement Management Services
2. Construction Specifications
3. Inspector Training
4. Cold In Place Recycling (CIP)

The last named is most interesting. It may be a way of dealing with the fact that repaving causes the pavement level to rise above the curbstones. One would think it might be very expensive, but it should be possible to arrange a demonstration project.

Report accepted

Buzz Ware Village Center Committee Report : CONNEE WRIGHT MCKINNEY

Our committee report tonight will briefly review events since the last town meeting and inform you about some events coming up. We will also be including the description of a consulting committee that we will be organizing over the next few months.

We sponsored several events this fall. On Saturday, November 7th, we sponsored two craft workshops: "Decorations from Natural Materials" by Ruth Bean and on Saturday, November 14th, "Origami Workshop" by Cecilia Vore. Both sessions offered a wonderful assortment of materials to select and very helpful samples for those of us who needed a helping hand. Unfortunately, Turnout was low for both events and our committee is interested in finding out why. We will probably shift future events to Sunday afternoon and maybe do more phone calling to remind residents of the event. We are interested in your opinions on this and we will continue to keep trying new ideas.

Our travel series continues to be a popular idea. This fall, we offered two travel programs: on Saturday, December 5, Ruth and Lou Bean shared their experiences from their recent trip to England where they travelled the countryside via canal boat. Thank you to the both of them for their excellent slides and most informative program. On January 16, John Thigpen appeared in full hiking gear, including walking stick and brought beautiful slides to walk us through his 2000-mile journey along the Appalachian Trail. I think it is safe to say that all who attended were inspired by this very self-effacing man and thoroughly enjoyed his presentation.

Please note the date change on Alan Burslem's Claybuilding Workshop to February 20 from 1-3. Alan will teach the basics of handbuilding stoneware pottery. Materials will be supplied. After the workshop, your piece will be bisque fired and glazed. Please call Alan (-8763) to sign up, spaces are limited. Fee is \$7 for class, \$10 for materials.

On Sunday, February 7 from 2-3:30, we will have our 4th Annual Valentine Making. Adults and children are invited. Adults find this events a lot of fun and a great way to relax and make a keepsake at the same time. Materials are supplied. Call Ruth Bean (-6140) if you have any questions.

On Sunday, February 21 from 1-3, we will have a cookie-making and notepaper making session to prepare for the 6th Annual Sunshine Sale. All are welcome to give us a hand. The sale is on Saturday, February 27 from 10-2. Homemade soup and sandwiches will be available from 11:30-1. We have many regulars who come to this event, but if you haven't been before, please stop by. We have a unique pricing system for the white elephants: you set the price on all of the items. All proceeds go to the non-profit Sunshine Foundation for dream trips for handicapped children.

A new yoga group has formed and is now meeting in Room 4 every Thursday evening. All residents are welcome to attend. Please call Naomi Clark (-2608) for information about sign-up.

We have had no major maintenance problems at the BwVC recently. In December, some pesky squirrels chewed the phone wire outside and knocked out communications one day, and we have had a few minor repairs to doors and drain spouts. Since our budget was passed, after March, we will finish upgrading the fire system and hopefully have the building recertified. Also, in the near future, we will be hooking up a phone in Room 4: the wiring is now completed.

In regard to future plans at the BWVC. The Wilmington Montessori School has raised the necessary funds for their capital campaign to expand at the Harvey Road site. We have not received any official word from them about the exact date of their departure. We are currently organizing a consulting committee to help the BWVC Committee plan for this change. The objectives of the consulting committee are as follows:

OBJECTIVES OF THE CONSULTING COMMITTEE FOR FUTURE USES OF BWVC

The objectives of the Consulting Committee for Future Uses of BWVC will be to gather information and discuss options for uses of the Buzz Ware Village Center after the Wilmington Montessori School ends their rental contract.

The information gathered will be used by the BWVC Committee to present recommendations to the Village of Arden town assembly and will include the following:

1. Assessment of community needs such as ACRA (Arden Community Recreation Association), Archives Committee, Arden Museum, Village of Arden (office and storage of records), and Arden Club
2. Assessment of rental options such as daycare, studio space, office space, private classes
3. Estimate of costs, savings and income (such as fundraising) to Village of Arden for the use of the BWVC for community needs
4. Estimate of costs, savings and income to Village of Arden for the use of the BWVC for rental space
5. Provision of space for the ACRA Summer Program
6. Short and long-term goals and timetable set for community use and/or outside rental agreement

Committee members and/or consultants will be selected as much as possible from the following areas of expertise:

1. Commercial real estate or insurance
2. Legal such as contract negotiations
3. Day care
4. Architect or engineer
5. Community center administrator
6. Community members from three Ardens
7. Consultations with Community Planning Committee, Archives Committee, Trustees, Budget Committee, ACRA, and Arden Club

To insure an opportunity for open discussion on the future of the BWVC, in addition to the above, our committee will hold public meetings and, if possible, an independent feasibility study.

Our committee appreciates your cooperation in returning the chairs and tables after your meetings and for returning the BWVC keys promptly to Ruth Bean. Please continue to call her for scheduling your events.

Thank you for your continued support.

Respectfully submitted,
Connee Wright McKinney, Chairperson

REPORT ACCEPTED

A. Historic Preservation and Restoration

1. Our Committee has had continuing discussions concerning the coordination of activities relating to historic preservation and restoration, an issue recently brought to the fore by the repair of the Frank Stephens Memorial Theatre ("field theatre"). At present, these functions are not clearly the responsibility of any of our standing committees.

With further conferring with other most relevant committees, we expect to present a proposed restatement of responsibilities that will be more detailed than the present omnibus statement of planning the "physical and cultural future of the Community."

We are considering, also, the need to be more explicit concerning operating procedures and channels of responsibility beyond as well as within Arden.

2. Pending Revision of NCC Ordinance 92-035
(relating to the identification and preservation of historic areas/districts; initiated by Dick Cecil, our NCC Council representative)

The Arden Advisory Committee was alerted to the tentatively proposed revisions aimed at strengthening the current ordinance establishing the Historic Review Board. No consensus was apparent and an informal position by Arden is not likely to be formulated and voted upon before the Council consideration and vote.

Individuals are encouraged to attend meetings on this issue and provide input to make a stronger ordinance. [Note: Newcomers are reminded that public announcements of County Council meetings are printed in the Saturday Real Estate section of the News Journal, usually toward the back of the section.]

B. Pro-active Planning for the I-95 & R.R. Land Parcel

At the last Town Assembly, our Committee offered to assist any individuals interested in formulating an alternative use for the 24 acre parcel of land currently proposed by the NCC Council for 114 dwelling units. No one from Arden expressed a willingness to volunteer for such a project. When the same issues were presented to the last Ardentown meeting, similar results were obtained, although several residents asked to be kept informed of any new developments. The Community Planning Committee will not pursue this matter further.

C. Arden "Memorial Garden"

Ethel Monfort has been responsible for up-dating the mapping of the current cemetery plots. Unfortunately, Ethel is temporarily laid-up in bed with muscle problems and will not be able to present her report and answer questions until the next Quarterly meeting. Apparently the project is moving and all headstones are in place except one (which is being specially created in clay by Alan Burslem).

Report accepted

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE: Steven Threefoot

The Legislative Reference Committee held our second meeting on January 17, 1993, all members were present.

We approved the draft version of the addendum to "An Act to Reincorporate" This addendum describes each of the standing committees of this Town Assembly. The intent of this committee is to include this work into a larger document which codifies the important documents of the Village of Arden. A mock version of this document is here tonight in order that the Committee may get feedback on the concept.

An important issue, which grew out of the September resolution by the Registration Committee, is the lack of a defined policy of the Village for requesting action to amend the Town charter. We, as a committee, feel it is valuable to establish a procedure to ask the State Legislature to amend our charter. A resolution and a motion is presented at the end of this report.

Finally, we plan on holding meetings on a monthly basis in order to make a dent in the large amount of work which needs to be done. Our next meeting will held on February 2, 1993 at 7:30 PM.

RESOLUTION PRESENTED TO THE TOWN ASSEMBLY MEETING BY THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE:

Be it resolved that the Town Assembly of the Village of Arden directs the Legislative Reference Committee to recommend a policy for the Village of Arden to request the State of Delaware amend the Village's charter. In fulfilling this resolution, the Legislative Reference Committee is directed to:

- (1) hold at least three public hearings to collect input from the community and
- (2) present the recommendations at the regular September 1993 Town Assembly meeting.

This resolution was defeated 25 to 15.

MOTION PRESENTED TO THE TOWN ASSEMBLY MEETING BY THE LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE COMMITTEE:

Be it moved that the total membership of the Legislative Reference Committee be increased to five from three, and that additional members be elected at the next March Town Assembly meeting with the person getting the lowest number of votes serving a one year term.

Therefore, section A of the committee description should be revised as follows:

"A - The Legislative Reference Committee shall consist of five residents of the Village of Arden, elected by a majority of those voting at the regular March meeting of the Town Assembly. The term shall be two years, three members elected on the even numbered years and two members elected on the odd numbered years."

This motion was seconded and passed.

Report accepted

PLAYGROUND: No report

REGISTRATION: Yvonne King

There are 394 eligible voters at this time in the village. We are in the process of having the committee expanded and the committee being elected on alternate years so there is not a complete turnover. This should be accomplished through the Legislator by the end of March. Wayne Smith has the information and will keep us aware when this takes place. The Welcome Hither Committee is almost caught up with delivering packets to new residents. Finding out who new residents are continues to be difficult. With the changing living patterns it becomes more difficult. We need everyone in the community to pass information either to the Town Secretary, Irene O'Connor or to the Registration Committee. There will be a block party at Jannie Stearns on March 21, 1993. Invitations will be sent out to anyone who has been in Arden one year or less. We also are interested in anyone who would like to be a greeter. Call Jannie at 475-7736.

Report accepted

SAFETY COMMITTEE: Tim Colgan

The Committee contacted the villages of Ardentown and Ardencroft by letter asking for a financial contribution to our Town Watch Program. Based on start up costs, salary for the co-ordinator, and supplies, we asked for a contribution of \$700 from Ardentown, \$500 from Ardencroft. These figures were based on population as it related to expenses. Ardentown invited me to their last Town Meeting to discuss the program and pitch for the money. Ardentown will contribute \$700 requested and we await the cash. Ardencroft sent a representative to our last committee meeting and we will be sending a representative to there next meeting to ask for a contribution. A good idea came out of our meeting with Ardencroft and that is to continue a meeting of all three village Safety Committees to discuss issues effecting the community at large.

Vandalism:

Three 19 year olds were recently arrested for 100 acts of vandalism, including several in the Ardens. The Safety Committee has requested to attend their sentencing, if convicted, and also to speak to the court and have the convicts perform community service to the Town. I have discussed this idea with Lou Bean of Civic and their committee agrees with the idea and they can come up with the projects that former vandals can assist them with.

Road Signs

The committee recently spent \$632 on various signs that needed replacement and we are in the process of getting them installed. Please advise a committee member if you notice a safety sign missing or if you feel a sign is needed where there are none at the present time.

Traffic Light Update

We have advised the State D.O.T. that the Village has approved funding for a light at Orleans and Harvey. We have stated that construction costs to be paid by Arden can not be funded until after 3.23.93, due to our fiscal year. We will send a public notice to all residents as soon as we are informed of an installation date.

Report accepted.

No old business was reported.

New business: Town Assembly Chairman requested a moment of silence for Ted Southwell, friend and respected resident of Arden who recently died. Town Secretary will send a letter Mrs. Southwell to convey our condolences.

Adjournment: 9:45 PM.

Respectfully submitted:

Irene O'Connor
Town Assembly Secretary